## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 VO-03 CA-01 SY-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 USSS-00 FBIE-00 /068 W ------056616 121003Z /20

P R 120919Z SEP 77 FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6354 INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

CONFIDENTIAL SEOUL 7730

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNGA, KN

SUBJ: VISIT OF NORTH KOREAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO UN

REF: A. USUN 2888, B. STATE 215865

- 1. FOREIGN MINISTER IN CONVERSATION SEPTEMBER 12 WITH AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED CONCERN REGARDING NORTH KOREAN FONMIN HO TAM'S PROPOSAL TO VISIT UN LATER IN SEPTEMBER. HE WONDERED WHETHER THERE WAS NOT SOME BASIS FOR REJECTING VISA APPLICATION FOR HO TAM.
- 2. AMBASSADOR EXPLAINED THAT WE WERE PREPARED TO ISSUE VISA AND THAT THERE WAS NO REASONABLE BASIS FOR REJECTING REQUEST.
- 3. FONMIN SAID THAT HIS MAJOR CONCERN WAS EFFORT BY HO TAM TO MAKE PRIVATE CONTACT WITH USG OFFICIALS, DESPITE USG POSITION OF NOT UNDERTAKING SUCH BILATERAL CONTACTS. AMBASSADOR ASSURED FONMIN THAT US POSITION REMAINED AS AFFIRMED AT HIGHEST LEVELS, THAT WE WOULD NOT MAKE CONTACTS WITH NORTH KOREA WITHOUT PRESENCE OF SOUTH KOREA.
- 4. FONMIN ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT PRESS CONTACTS ON PART OF CONFIDENTIAL

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HO TAM, ALTHOUTH HE ACKNOWLEDGED NO MEANS OF PREVENTING HIM FROM HOLDING PRESS CONFERENCE AT UN. AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT THAT NORTH KOREANS SEEMED TO HAVE AN UNBROKEN RECORD OF HARMING THEIR OWN CAUSE EVERY TIME THEY ATTEMPT TO PROPAGANDIZE IN THE WEST. SNEIDER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a

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Subject: VISIT OF NORTH KOREAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO UN

TAGS: PORG, KN, UNGA, (HO TAM)

To: STATE Type: TE

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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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